

Message Text

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TAGS: TSPA, UR

SUBJECT: SPACE AGREEMENT -- NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

REF: (A) MOSCOW 4397

-- (B) STATE 71267

1. ALTHOUGH REF (B) GIVES US REACTION TO PROPOSED PROGRAM FOR JOINT WORKING GROUP MEETING IN BAKU, NASA WOULD APPRECIATE SCIENCE COUNSELLOR CALLING ON VERESHCHETINTO MAKE CLEAR ITS STRONG VIEWS ON (1) LOCATION AND (2) CHARACTER OF MEETINGS IN USSR. SUGGEST SCIENCE COUNSELLOR DRAW ON FOLLOWING POINTS:

(1) NASA DOES NOT WISH TO PARTICIPATE IN MEETINGS AT REMOTE SITES UNLESS THERE IS COMPELLING REASON TO BELIEVE LOCATION WOULD SUBSTANTIALLY ENHANCE BUSINESS OF MEETING -- E.G., BY SPECIFIC FACILITIES VISITS.

(2) PROPOSED AGENDA INVOLVES TWO DAYS OF SIGHTSEEING AND EXTENDS TRAVEL TIME REQUIRED BY TWO DAYS. MORE IMPORTANT
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THAN ADDED TRAVEL EXPENSE IS EXCESSIVE DEMANDS ON TIME OF

NASA SPECIALISTS. WE APPRECIATE CONSIDERATION BUT CAN PARTICIPATE IN SIGHTSEEING ONLY AFTER WORKING HOURS AND ON WEEKENDS THAT FALL BETWEEN WORKING SESSIONS.

(3) MEETINGS AT OUTLYING LOCATIONS ARE APT TO INVOLVE PROTOCOL ACTIVITIES WITH LOCAL AUTHORITIES THAT INTERFERE WITH WORK. NASA DELEGATION AT SPACE BIOLOGY AND MEDICINE MEETING IN TASHKENT LAST OCTOBER FOUND THIS SERIOUSLY DISRUPTING FACTOR.

(4) NASA SURPRISED THAT INTERCOSMOS WOULD PROCEED WITH ARRANGEMENTS FOR BAKU MEETING IN VIEW OF ANDERSON DISCUSSION WITH VERESHCHETIN LAST SEPTEMBER AND MESSAGE FROM WINTER TO GUROVSKIY (STATE 204562) RELUCTANTLY ACCEPTING TASHKENT SITE IN VIEW OF ADVANCED STATE OF INTERCOSMOS PREPARATIONS FOR MEETING THERE.

(5) NASA HOPES THAT MATTER OF MEETINGS AT DISTANT SITES UNRELATED TO OUR COOPERATIVE BUSINESS NEED NOT ARISE AGAIN. INGERSOLL

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